

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 16. (canceled)

17. (Currently amended) An access control system in which a plurality of storage devices for storing information resources and access controllers for controlling accesses to the information resources stored in the storage devices are connected with a network, each of the access controllers having an access control list on which access right to each information resource stored in the storage devices is recorded, and each of the access controllers having an access prohibition list on which access prohibited users are recorded who are prohibited from accessing any information resource stored in the storage devices, each access controller comprising:

an access restriction module configured to restrict access to each information resource stored in a storage device and listed on the access control list of the access controller that records access right to each information resource; ~~and~~

an access interception module configured to restrict the access by reference to the access prohibition list of the access controller, which records user information of access prohibited users, prior to the access control list; ~~and~~

a list update module configured to update the access prohibition list;

an access control list update module configured to update the access control list according to the updated access prohibition-list, list; and

a distribution module;

wherein the distribution module of at least one of the access controllers having the an updated access prohibition list ~~further comprising a distribution module~~ is configured to send out the user information or the updated access prohibition list to the other access controllers in response to ~~the update~~ the access prohibition list of the sending access controller being updated; and

wherein the list update module of each of the other access controllers further comprising a list update module is configured to receive the user information or the updated access prohibition list and to update the access prohibition list thereof to include the received user information or updated access prohibition list,

~~wherein the distribution module of each access controller sends out the user information or the updated prohibition list to a predetermined other one of the access controllers, thereby transmitting the user information or the updated prohibition list from one access controller to another, and~~

wherein after the list update module of each of the other access controllers updates the access prohibition list thereof, the access control list update module thereof updates the access control list thereof according to the updated access prohibition list thereof;

wherein in response to completing the updating of the access control list thereof, each of the other access controllers notifies the sending access controller of said completion; and

wherein the list update module of the sending access controller deletes the user information ~~on~~ or the access prohibition list thereof at a predetermined timing after receiving the completion notifications from the other access controllers.

18. - 28. (Canceled)

29. (New) An access control system according to claim 17, wherein the sending access controller is configured to send an instruction to each of the other access controllers for deleting the user information or updated access prohibition list sent thereto, said instruction being sent by the sending access controller to each of the other access controllers after receiving said notification of completion therefrom.

30. (New) An access control system according to claim 29, wherein each of the access controllers manages a different respective information resource on the basis of at least one of the access control list and the access prohibition list in the access controller to control accesses from a client computer with user information.

31. (New) An access control system according to 29, wherein each of the access controllers manages information resources in a different respective first network, and each of the first networks is coupled to a second network.